

VIDEO RECORDING CAMERA SYSTEM

* * *

5

ABSTRACT

A video recording system for effectively recording video images of unaware subjects under a broad range of lighting conditions automatically in response to detection of motion by such subject using a camera system having controls enabling selective operation of such camera system. The video recording system comprises a motion detector operatively associated with such a camera system in order to selectively produce, in response to detection of motion as by such a subject, an output signal for selectively adjusting such camera's light sensitivity and for selectively causing such camera system to begin recording video images of such subject. The video system also comprises a light sensitivity adjustment system for ensuring that such camera is able to effectively record video images of such subject under such broad range of lighting conditions in response to receipt of the output signal. The light sensitivity adjustment system comprises a photodetection module operatively associated with the camera system, adapted to detect a light level external to such camera system under which light level an unaware subject would be recorded on video images by such a camera system, and including a camera sensitivity control interface to selectively adjust such camera controls governing the light sensitivity of such camera in order to cause such camera system to have a desired light sensitivity to enable effective video recording of such subject.

Furthermore, the video recording system can comprise a filter system in order to control the light level reaching the camera system in order to adjust for a known light sensitivity of the camera system. Alternatively, the video recording system can comprise an infrared lamp system for casting infrared light upon a subject to be recorded by the camera system.

Additionally, a method of video recording comprises detecting motion as by such a subject. Upon detection of motion, an output signal is produced for causing such camera system to begin recording video images of such subject. Upon receipt of the output signal, a light level external to such camera system is detected within which light
5 level an unaware subject is oriented. The capacity of the camera system to record video images of an unaware subject under the environmental lighting conditions under which the unaware subject is susceptible to recordation by the camera system is selectively adapted.